

## House Resolution No. 2549

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State universities that are dedicated to enhancing the future of this great state by ensuring that its past is remembered and properly commemorated; and

**Whereas**, the Soldiers' Memorial Plaza on the main campus of Lincoln University in Jefferson City will be dedicated on May 2, 2007, to honor the founding of Lincoln University by the black enlisted men and white officers of the 62nd and 65th United States Colored Infantries; and

**Whereas**, the Soldiers' Memorial Plaza started from an idea and dream by Dr. David B. Henson, former President of Lincoln University, in 2002; and

**Whereas**, Dr. Henson wanted to have a permanent tribute to Lincoln University's founders, the brave and benevolent men of the 62nd and 65th United States Colored Infantries, who served gallantly in the United States Civil War; and

**Whereas**, after reading and understanding a history of Lincoln University, Ed Dwight, a renowned artist nationally recognized for his work on African-American sculptures, made a small replica of the founding soldiers laying down their weapons and taking up books as symbols of education; and

**Whereas**, following the start of a fund-raising campaign, a landscape architecture and environmental graphic design was developed by Christner, Incorporated, of St. Louis, with a focus to create a serene and beautiful place for all students to enjoy; and

**Whereas**, the construction of the Soldiers' Memorial Plaza pays homage to the noble officers and soldiers of the Civil War who embraced the vision of educating African-Americans and who celebrated a unique collaboration of white and black military officers and soldiers who championed equal rights and faithfully served their county; and

**Whereas**, the presence of the Soldiers' Memorial Plaza on the Lincoln University campus will provide an opportunity for students, alumni, faculty, and friends to gather together in support and unity and to encourage thoughtful discussions of how to further promote the mission and vision of the founders of Lincoln University:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the efforts of Lincoln University to preserve the history and goals of the Soldiers' Memorial Plaza and to convey to all those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation for their efforts in establishing this memorial; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Lincoln University during the Soldiers' Memorial Plaza dedication.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Mark J. Bruns  
District No. 113

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2549, adopted April 24, 2007.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker